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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 45 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 138, No. 45

Early voting will be available to Sumpter Township residents during the 2024 Presidential Election, but the cost isn't popular with members of the board of trustees.

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Area residents can lace up their sneakers and work up an appetite for a good cause Thanksgiving during the 21st Canton Annual Turkey Trot for a Cause 23.

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Inkster property owners received an early holiday gift last week when state legislators agreed to forgive $12.12 million in school district tax debt.

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Northville Township has asked a court to halt waste dumping in a new section of the Arbor Hills Landfill because of an increase in odor complaints.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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THE ROMULUS ROMAN
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Members of the Romulus High School Marching Eagles will be part of the 97th America's Thanksgiving Parade Nov. 23 in downtown Detroit.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE
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As they have for several years, members of the City of Wayne Police Department will participate in Movember this year.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE
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There will be four new police officers in Westland funded by a $500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Service.

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Train derailment prompts safety concerns

The derailment of 14 cars in Romulus last week was a safety concern to city first responders and officials. There were no injuries reported in the incident.

The cause of the train derailment in the city of Romulus prompted Mayor Robert A. McCraight, along with state and federal officials to call for increased enforcement of railway safety standards. The incident, which remains under investigation, prompted McCraight to issue a statement urging stronger federal rules for railways. He said the federal government should have a stronger regard for the safety of local communities and strengthen railway safety rules. He added that local municipalities and residents are not aware of the dangers of trains traveling through their respective communities.

"We've had three derailments in two years in the city of Romulus. It's part of a bigger-picture issue. Of course, we want to make sure our public is safe right now, but the federal oversight is something I have heartburn over," McCraight said.

Hazardous waste travels by train through nearly all local communities for disposal in landfills in Van Buren Township and to a hazardous waste well in Romulus.

The latest incident occurred at about 10 a.m. last Thursday, Nov. 2, when 14 cars of a 97-car train derailed on the northsouth CSX tracks in Romulus, blocking Wick and Tobine road crossings. A CSX spokesman said that the incident posed no threats to the public and there were no leaks or spills from the cars, which usually carry hazardous waste matter. Bryan Tucker from CSX said the derailed cars were "mostly empty" at the time of the incident. No injuries were reported.

The Romulus police and fire department responded to the scene along with a HAZMAT crew from the Wayne County Emergency Management Team. McCraight issued a statement immediately following the incident to reassure the public. "At this time there appears to be no immediate threat to public health," the mayor said.

Two nearby schools, Wick Elementary School and Romulus Middle School were closed and students evacuated "in an abundance of caution," according to a statement from Hugh McDairmid Jr. of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

Romulus Director of Public Safety Kevin Krause said city officials communicated with railway officials immediately following the crash. "It was luck of the draw today and today we were lucky," Krause said regarding the empty hazardous waste cars.

Public response to the crash was exacerbated by the Feb. train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio which caused a serious threat to public safety with fire and the release of potential dangerous chemicals. In the Ohio incident, nearly 2,000 residents were evacuated from their homes. Another derailment took place in Van Buren Township only two weeks after the Ohio incident.

See **Train,** page 2

Voters choose mayor, council, commissioners

Westland

Voters in Westland have chosen their first newly-elected mayor in nearly 20 years.

Voters chose current State Rep. Kevin Coleman to lead the city with 8,144 votes. Current interim Mayor Mike Londeau was the choice of 5,630 voters. The four-year position pays pays $121,574 annually. The two candidates were selected by voters from a field of six hopefuls in an August primary election.

Coleman, 40, served on the Westland City Council, the veteran's association and the Westland festival committee, prior to his election to state office. Coleman was defeated by former Mayor William Wild in his first bid for the top job in the city. A special election to fill his unexpired term as the representative from the 25th District will now be scheduled.

Following the resignation of long-time Mayor William r. Wild, current members of the city council chose Londeau to serve as interim mayor until the election. Prior to his election to the city council, Londeau chaired the city Downtown Development Authority and was a member of the master plan steering committee. He is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School.

Voters also chose four members of the city council.

Incumbent Michael McDermott garnered 8,944 votes; incumbent Melissa Sampey received 7,629 votes; Council President Pro tem Andrea Rutkowski received 7,470 votes and Emily Bauman received 7,211 votes. DeLano Hornbuckle was the choice of 5,376 voters and Edward Pruett received 4,622 votes. Hornbuckle was appointed to fill Londeau's seat when he left the council to become the interim mayor. Bauman, 6,826 votes, and Hornbuckle, 4,543 votes were also seeking to fill the remainder of Londeau's unexpired council term.

Councilmembers are paid $18,040 annually while the council president is paid $18,953.

Inkster

Inkster voters chose Byron Nolen as the new mayor of the city and selected city council representatives in three districts.

Nolen received a total of 1,662 votes, while incumbent Mayor Patrick Wimberly was the choice of 1,153 voters.

Nolen will return to the office which he left in 2019. An attorney for 27 years, he cited the city budget $3.3 million surplus when he left office and the relief from state receivership in 2019, as accomplishments of his previous term in office. Nolen was first elected in 2015 with 87 percent of the vote.

Wimberly, 49, is currently under indictment by federal authorities and is accused of demanding cash from a developer hoping to purchase city-owned property. Wimberly was elected to the mayoral position which pays $105,000 annually in 2019. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Voters chose Felicia Rutledge as the city council representative for District 1. Rutledge received 1,615 votes while Timothy Williams was the choice of 1,046 voters. Rutledge has worked in government for more than 16 years.

She is a Victim Advocate for the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office Victim Service Unit.

Williams serves as Mayor Pro Tem on the Inkster City Council and is a former state legislator.

In Inkster District 4, Steven Chisholm, the incumbent, received 1,585 votes and opponent Rebecca J. Daniels received 1,076 votes. Chisholm, a real estate broker, has served on the city council for 7 years.

In District 6, Dee Coleman Richardson defeated Dennard Orlando Shaw. Richardson received 1,397 votes while Shaw was the choice of 1,144 voters. Coleman Richardson previously served on the council.

Plymouth voters nix millage, choose 4 commissioners

Plymouth voters rejected the requested charter amendment to allow a new 1.75 mill tax to fund new recreation opportunities in the city. No votes totaled 1,368 while yes votes were 1,302.

The new tax would have been effect for 12 years and was expected to generate an estimated $1.3 million annually for recreational expenses in the community through 2035. The new millage would have cost homeowners about $1.75 for every $1,000 of market value of their property. Homes with a $300,000 market value would have seen an increase of approximately $260 on their tax bills.

The question on the ballot asked for an amendment to the city charter and required that all funding generated by the millage be dedicated to recreation and park expenses in the city. The new tax would have been effective only on city residents.

Members of the Plymouth City Commission approved the ballot question by a unanimous vote in July. Officials said residents had consistently ranked parks and recreational facilities as a priority for the community during the preparation of a new recreation master plan during the past five years. They added that while the demand has grown, facilities like soccer and athletic fields have decreased eliminating some youth sports recreation programs.

Approval of the charter amendment would have allowed for the acquisition of new property to provide recreational opportunities and fund the improvement and maintenance of the current facilities, officials said.

Voters also chose four new members of the city commission. Kelly O'Donnell garnered 1,533 vote; Brock Minton received 1,421 votes; Linda Filipczak received 1,336 votes and Suzi Deal received 1,324 votes.

As the top four vote getters they will serve 4-year terms on the city commission.

Candidate Ron Picard received 1,075 votes, Joshua Rimatski received 835 votes and Catherine Coburn garnered 829 votes.

Commissioners in Plymouth are paid $20 per meeting.

Romulus - Sumpter

March on

Members of the Romulus High School Marching Eagles will be getting up early Nov. 23. The Marching Eagles will be part of the 97th America's Thanksgiving Parade presented by Gardner White The band will march with the parade through the streets of downtown Detroit beginning at 8:45 a.m. The traditional event always takes place on Thanksgiving morning to officially welcome the holiday season. The parade theme this year is "A Heart of History" and the entire celebration can be viewed on Channel 4 WDIV. Following the parade, the public can vote online for the best marching band in the parade.

Early voting law could be costly for township

Early voting will be available to Sumpter Township residents during the 2024 Presidential Election, but the cost isn't popular with members of the board of trustees.

State voters approved Proposition 2 which included the extended in-person voting on the 2022 ballot and the measure becomes mandatory with the election next year. Municipalities must now officially adopt the new procedures by state law. Sumpter trustees were asked to vote to officially adopt the new procedures during a meeting last month.

During the meeting, trustees expressed their frustration at the state mandated early voting rules allowing for 9 days of in-person voting in addition to the usual Election Day opportunity. Township Clerk Ester Hurst noted that proving staffing and equipment is now law in the state, but the measure would be "a headache" for her department. In addition, municipalities must now apply postage to all absentee ballots which are mailed to voters. Hurst said with the increase in postal rates, this could be another expense in her department. Hurst said the new legislation would have a serious financial impact as there are three elections set for next year. She said the township would have to hire an increased staff of election workers at $12 an hour for 8 hours on each of the increased election days.

> *While the state legislators approved the measure, they did not approve or supply any funding toward the increased expenses*

Trustee Tim Rush called the state mandate offensive and claimed the cost could be as much as $6,000 for staffing for the added election days in addition to the unknown cost of voting equipment. Rush said he felt that voters were not aware of the impact of the question on the 2022 ballot. While he voted yes on the agenda item, he said he was doing in "under protest."

Trustee Matt Oddy was also critical of the new voting regulations. He said that while the state legislators approved the measure, they did not approve or supply any funding toward the increased expenses required to comply with the new procedures. Oddy said each of the 735 townships in Michigan would be facing new expenses.

Township Treasurer Bart Patterson agreed with Rush and Oddy. He said voters didn't understand the question. when voting for the proposal last year.

Train

FROM PAGE 1

Following the Romulus derailment last week, state and federal officials issued statements urging stricter safety standards for railways.

"I am extremely frustrated and disappointed to hear about yet another train derailment in my community," said state Rep. Reggie Miller, D-Van Buren Township.

"The startling frequency with which we experience these incidents underscores the urgent need for stricter laws and regulations regarding freight rail. I'm relieved that there was no hazardous waste spilled, but as we know from similar accidents, we are not always so lucky. This situation is untenable, and it must change."

U.S. Rep. Shri Thanedar said the derailment "obviously represents a breakdown in the system." He said the deteriorating infrastructure throughout the country was in need of attention and added, "The bipartisan infrastructure law will be bringing much-needed funds to the rail system, but we need to ensure the safety of our neighbors now."

"Our base jobs as elected officials is to make sure our communities are kept safe," McCraight said. "How do we keep the community safe when we don't see enough federal oversight on these railways to make sure that our public remains safe?"

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CANTON

Traditional Turkey Trot set for Nov. 21

Area residents are encouraged to lace up their sneakers and work up an appetite for a good cause Thanksgiving morning by running or walking in the 21st Canton Annual Turkey Trot for a Cause on Thursday, Nov. 23.

All ages are encouraged to join in the fight against epilepsy by taking part in the chip-timed 5K race or 1-mile fun run that will benefit the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, an organization dedicated to empowering individuals with seizure disorders. The main sponsor of the event, is Gazelle Sports of Northville which hosts bib pick up, provides awards and supports the event each year.

This year, the race is set to start at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway and will cover a flat course that winds through Pheasant Run Golf course, Heritage Park, ending back at the Summit. In addition, race organizers are once again offering a virtual option, where runners can pick the time and location to suit their preferences.

This annual tradition was started in 2003 by Michael and Terri Murray after their son Justin was diagnosed with epilepsy. Wanting to do something in the fight against epilepsy to help stop seizures, find cures and save lives, the couple worked with Canton Township officials to organize the first Thanksgiving Turkey Trot. Justin Murray, who has been seizure free since undergoing brain surgery in 2007 to remove a seizure-causing growth, continues to give back by supporting and volunteering at the races, as well as volunteering at the Epilepsy Foundation office in Southfield. To date, the Canton Turkey Trot has generated more than $300,000.

Participants from previous Canton Turkey Trots helped the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. Photo courtesy of Canton Township.

"Our Turkey Trot has become a popular holiday tradition for many in the Canton community," said Ann-Marie Carravallah, Canton sports recreation coordinator. "It's a great opportunity for families and friends to come together, enjoy nature, and get some exercise, all while supporting a great cause."

Pre-registration is available online at csc.canton-mi.org or by calling (734) 483-5600 until 8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 23 when onsite registration is available. Participants registered by Nov. 10, are guaranteed an event T-Shirt. Registration fees are $35 for the chipped 5K race and $30 for the 1-mile fun run or virtual run.

Participants can obtain shirts and bibs at Gazelle Sports Northville at 39737 Traditions Drive, during regular store hours from Nov. 17-20. Bib/Shirt pick-up will re-open from 3 until 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22 in the Summit Banquet and Conference Center, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

For event information, including course map, visit csc.canton-mi.org or call (734) 483-5600.

Annual township Salute to Service is tomorrow

The annual special celebration honoring all veterans, living and deceased, and especially those active-duty military men and women who are currently serving in faraway places will take place just prior to Veterans Day in Canton Township.

Canton Club 55+ members and The Village Theater at Cherry Hill officials are partnering to honor area service men and women who have served or who are currently serving in the armed forces. This free event will feature a special program that will take place on the main stage of the theater. Featured presenters include Canton Township Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak and informational veterans' speakers, as well as a special performance by the 338th Army Band.

"Canton is proud to present this special event, which is designed to thank, as well as support our area's service men and women and their families," said Jennifer Galazka, Canton Club 55+ recreation specialist. "This special tribute will bring together the community for an afternoon of celebration and appreciation of those who have put themselves in harm's way to protect our country."

The annual Salute to Service event is set for noon until 3 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10. The program will take place at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

Representatives of the Veterans Administration Ann Arbor Health System will also be onsite accepting donations throughout the event. Suggested items for donation include, but are not limited to new items in their original packaging: T-Shirts (sizes S-5XL); sweatshirts in all sizes (no hoodies, please); winter coats (all sizes); winter gloves, hats, and scarves; combs (4-inch size needed for inpatient use); deodorant, disposable razors; lotion; lip balm (Chapstick); and lap quilts (4-foot by 4-foot minimum size). Additional items that are needed include: cases of water, toilet paper, and cans of ground coffee.

No tickets are required for this general admission event and all ages are welcome to attend.

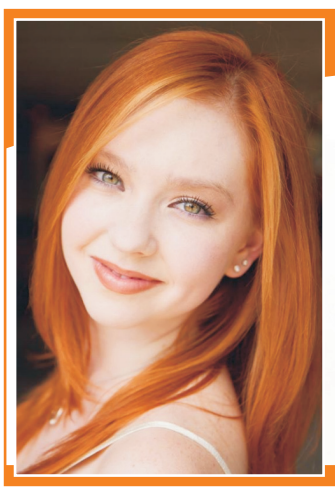
The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For more information visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5300.

Art entries being accepted

The Village Arts Factory will accept applications for solo or group art exhibitions through Monday, Dec. 4.

The arts factory is a multipurpose arts complex located in Cherry Hill Village in Canton Township and is planning exhibition for at the facility for 2024.To be considered for an exhibition, artists can apply online at https://villageartsfactory.com/application-for-art-exhibitor by submitting a sample of digital images of current works, contact information, current resume/biography, artist statement, and availability.

The Fine Art Gallery at the Village Arts Factory showcases established as well as emerging artists during monthly exhibits that are free and open to the public during gallery hours: 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday-Friday as well as during all public events. For more details, visit villageartsfactory.com or call (734) 386-0650.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2011 FORD
3FAHP0JA4BR113920
2010 CHRYSLER
2A4RR5D13AR399419
2007 SATURN
1G8AJ55F97Z115353
2007 CHRYSLER
2C3KA53G77H629552
2016 FORD
2FMGK5C81GBA15473
2001 MAZDA
4F4YR12D11TM21005
2018 WABASH
1JJV281DXJL081483
1996 JEEP
1J4FJ78S0TL208463
2008 MERCURY
4M2CU81Z88KJ46122
2008 CHRYSLER
2A8HR54P18R142672
2016 FORD
3FA6POH74GR161507
2021 DODGE
1C4SDJCT8MC547739
2014 FORD
1FM5K8D83EGC29071
2008 TOYOTA
5TDZY68A18S007628
2011 GMC
1GKKRPED7BJ152880
2008 FORD
1FMFU18598LA61504
2000 OLDSMOBILE
1GHDT13W3Y2344205
2018 KIA
KNDJN2A28J7901711
2009 CADILLAC
1GNER23D49S150918

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE

AUCTION WILL BE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14TH ,2023 @ 10 AM @6345 HIX,WESTLAND MI
THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS. STARTING BID IS FOR TOWING AND STORAGE.

VEHICLE ARE SOLD AS IS AND MAY BE REMOVED FROM AUCTION PRIOR TO BIDDING. ALL BIDS START AT AMOUNT SHOWN FOR TOWING AND STORAGE FEES.

2003 DODGE
1B3ES26C33D203248
2009 CHEVROLET
3GNCA13B89S607905
2008 LINCOLN
2LMDU88C48BJ07839
2009 SATURN
3GSCL33P99S514826
2013 DODGE
1C3CDFBA1DD314401
2016 HYUNDIA
KM8J23A45GU208732
2002 JEEP
1J8GL48K32W302507
2007 CHEVROLET
2CNDL23F976094865
2013 CHEVROLET
1G11H5SA8DF280844
2016 KIA
5XXGT4L3XGG027637
2009 CHEVROLET
1G1ZH57B894261797
2005 FORD
1FAFP53265A276576
2008 NISSAN
1N4BL24E48C248348
2005 BUICK
2G4WD562951269321

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Plymouth - Westland

Federal grant will fund 4 new police officers

There will be four new police officers in Westland funded by a $500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS).

The funding will continue for three years, according to the city and is part of the program which supports local law enforcement agencies in hiring and rehiring police officers. With these funds, officials said, the city can expand the police force and continue the commitment to public safety. Westland matched the grant with the required 25 percent of the total hiring amount of $1,429,464. The total expenditure for the hirings is $500,000 from the federal grant and $929,264 from Westland.

"This grant is a significant step forward for our city. It will allow us to enhance our law enforcement capabilities and provide even better service to our residents. The safety and well-being of our community are top priorities, and these four additional officers will contribute to a safer and more secure Westland," commented Mayor Michael P. Londeau.

> *This grant is a significant step forward for our city. It will allow us to enhance our law enforcement capabilities and provide even better service to our residents.*

The COPS Hiring Program promotes the principles of community policing, and the cultivation of positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve, according to the website. The program focuses on building trust, reducing crime, and improving public safety, it continued.

Westland Police Chief Kyle Dawley added, "The newly hired police officers will undergo comprehensive training and orientation to ensure they align with the community policing philosophy and the values of our city. Their presence will further strengthen our efforts to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all residents, businesses, and visitors."

Chamber of commerce is merged with Livonia

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is now located in Livonia.

The two chambers have merged to create a 1,200 membership, according to President and CEO of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce Dan West who will manage the new group. The new organization is called the Livonia Westland Chamber of Commerce and will be headquartered in Livonia while the Westland offices on Ford Road will be sold.

West, president and CEO of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce since 2006, will hold the same title in the newly aligned organization, which will be governed by a 29-member board of directors with representatives from both communities. The initial four-person chamber staff have a combined for nearly 50 years of industry experience, according to West.

He said a Westland office would open sometime in the future at a different location in the city.

"This is a great opportunity for all our members to expand their network and have access to new programming," West said.

"With the business community working together in both cities, we will be able to provide more of a voice to their issues, particularly in the area of workforce and talent development."

"This will give members in our community more programming, which aligns with the feedback we received during a recent survey of our members," said Danielle Strachan, board chairperson of the Westland Chamber of Commerce. "Livonia's experienced staff and resources will be connected to the untapped potential of the Westland business community."

The cities are both served by Livonia Public Schools and several health and social service agencies. By leveraging resources from both cities, the Livonia-Westland Chamber will be able to produce more networking events, advocacy, and programs to support local businesses and organizations, West noted.

Park it

The City of Plymouth public parking lot at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Deer Street (the former Saxton's location) is now available to drivers. In addition to the 47 parking spots, there are four EV charging stations, which are expected to be operational soon, pending some final touches, according to city officials. The lot also features green spaces including a rain garden. In the coming months, the area will be enhanced with benches at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Deer and along Ann Arbor Trail, as well as two bike racks near the corner.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 11, 2023
Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

Pledge of Allegiance - The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem John Barden.

Roll Call
Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe, Tina Talley, William Wadsworth, Virginia Williams
Absent / Excused: Eva Webb
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Robert McCraight, Mayor
Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk
Stacy Paige, Treasurer
Administrative Staff in Attendance:
D'Sjonaun Hockenhull - Deputy Clerk; Julie Wojtylko - Chief of Staff; Stephen Hitchcock - City Attorney; Maria Farris - Finance Director; Mike Laskaska - Director of Communications & Community Service; Roger Kadau - Co-Director of Cable

1. **Agenda**
   A. Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to accept the Agenda as presented. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
2. **Minutes**
   A. **Res. #23-243** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
   B. **Res. #23-244** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe** to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting - Study Session held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:45 p.m. to discuss a ballot proposal to amend Chapter 6, Section 6.4 of the Romulus City Charter. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
3. **Petitioner** - NONE
4. **Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
   A. Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Virginia Williams** to accept the Chairperson's Report. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
5. **Mayor's Report – Robert A. McCraight, Mayor**
   A. **Res. #23-245** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to concur with the Administration and authorize the fiscal year 2022/2023 encumbrances for capital outlay purchases and various City projects in the amount of $8,453,399.27 to be rolled over into the FY 2023/2024 budget and paid accordingly. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
6. **Clerk's Report – Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk**
   A. **Res. #23-246** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe** to concur with the recommendation of the Romulus Election Commission and establish the early voting site for all statewide and federal elections to be the old 34th District Court located at 11131 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
7. **Treasurer's Report – Stacy Paige, Treasurer** – *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
8. **Public Comment**
   A resident addressed the City Council regarding the Governor's agenda and its impact on local control on certain types of energy.
   A member of the public inquired about the percentage of vacant properties in the City and the city's position on cannabis establishments.
   A member from Motown Sports Group Holdings addressed the City Council regarding their interest in developing in the city.
9. **Unfinished Business** - NONE
10. **New Business** - NONE
11. **Warrant**
    A. **Res. #23-247** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to approve Warrant #: 23-17 for checks presented in the amount of $950,054.33. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
12. **Communication** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
13. **Adjournment**
    Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Romulus City Council held on September 11, 2023.

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

RM0764 - 110923 2.5 x 9.094

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 9, 2023
Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden.

Roll Call
Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe, Tina Talley, Virginia Williams
Absent / Excused: William Wadsworth, Eva Webb
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Robert McCraight, Mayor; Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk
Administrative Staff in Attendance:
Julie Wojtylko, Chief of Staff; Steve Hitchcock, City Attorney; Kevin Losen, HR Director; Bob Pfannes, Chief of Police; Roger Kadau, Cable

1. **Agenda**
   A. Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** for approval of Agenda. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
2. **Minutes**
   A. **Res. #23-263** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley** for approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on Monday, October 2, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   B. There were no special meeting(s) held on Monday, October 2, 2023.
3. **Petitioner** - None
4. **Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem**
   Res. # 23-264 Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to concur with the recommendation of the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a newly ratified Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Romulus and the Police Officers Association of Michigan, replacing the previous agreement which expired on June 30, 2023. The new ratified agreement is to be effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   A. Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to accept the Chairperson's Report. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
5. **Mayor's Report - Robert A. McCraight, Mayor**
   A. **Res. #23-265** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe** to concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into the Institutional Training Affiliation Agreement between the Romulus Fire Department and the Emergency Medical Training Center Services LLC **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   B. **Res. # 23-266** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to concur with the administration introduce Budget Amendment 23/24-6 to recognize expenses to upfit four (4) new DB forfeiture vehicles.

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
267 FED Forfeiture				
Fund Balance				
267-000-390.000	Fund Balance	$-	$15,000.00	$15,000.00
Expense				
267-301-970.000	Capital Outlay	$-	$15,000.00	$15,000.00

Motion Carried Unanimously.

6. **Clerk's Report - Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk**
   A. **Res. #23-267** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Virginia Williams**, to concur with the recommendation of the Police, Fire, and Safety Commission and approve the amendments to the commission's bylaws. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
7. **Treasurer's Report - Stacy Paige, Treasurer**
8. **Public Comment -**
   A resident addressed the Council regarding the Water Advisory Alert and voiced her concern that she did not receive notice of the water advisory.
   Mark Wilhide, chair of the Police, Fire & Safety committee, thanked the Council and the mayor for approving the PF&S Bylaws.
9. **Unfinished Business** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
10. **New Business** - None
11. **Warrant**
    A. **Res. #23-268** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, for Approval of Warrant #: 23-19 for checks presented in the amount of $1,207,083.56. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
12. **Communication** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
13. **Adjournment**

Moved by Celeste Roscoe, seconded by Kathy Abdo, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on October 9, 2023.

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

RM0767 - 110923 2.5 x 9.984

NORTHVILLE

Township files for injunction against landfill

Northville Township has asked a court to halt waste dumping in a new section of the Arbor Hills Landfill because of an increase in odor complaints caused by elevated methane gas levels.

In a motion filed Oct. 26 in Wayne County Circuit Court, the township seeks a temporary restraining order that would prevent Arbor Hills Landfill in Salem Township from placing waste in the newly created Cell 6.

"Since the Arbor Hills Landfill has opened Cell 6 in early July, we have seen odor complaints quadruple," said Northville Township Supervisor Mark J. Abbo. "While EGLE has been trying to work with Arbor Hills, we do not feel they share the same urgency of the board of trustees and residents. As a result, we feel we have no other option than to seek relief from the court," Abbo said.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) issued a violation notice Oct. 10 to the Arbor Hills Landfill for violating Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act ("NREPA"). Since Arbor Hills opened Cell 6 in July, more than 462 odor complaints have been made; this is more than half of all of the complaints made in entirety of 2022.

The motion states, "It is uncontroverted that the AH Landfill is operating in violation of Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act ("NREPA"), and the administrative rules promulgated by part 115 ("Rules"), of NREPA, and a consent judgment between Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy ("EGLE") and AH Landfill dated 3-7-22 ("EGLE Consent Judgment"). AH Landfill's creation and ongoing nature of nuisance conditions are documented and indisputable."

> *Since Arbor Hills opened Cell 6 in July, more than 462 odor complaints have been made.*

Despite the dramatic increase in complaints from Northville residents, EGLE and Arbor Hills Landfill have agreed to an extension to remedy the situation. The agreement gives Arbor Hills until Jan. 18, 2024, for the completion and implementation of remedial measures to ensure compliance with the rules (not for abatement of nuisance conditions).

"We cannot allow our residents to be exposed to these extreme methane gas levels, and horrible smells for another 90 days," continued Abbo. "The health and wellness of our residents is a top priority. That is why we are calling on the court to issue a restraining order preventing Arbor Hills from using Cell 6 until all of the proper safety measures are in place."

In the violation notice, EGLE documented 31 areas of the Arbor Hills Landfill that have methane levels higher than the state limits. These areas include the new Cell 6, 2 acres at the top of the landfill and a leachate riser east of Cell 6.

"Arbor Hills Landfill has repeatedly stated that they are working to improve the conditions at the landfill; however, things have only deteriorated," added Northville Township Clerk Cynthia L. Jankowski. "On behalf of our residents, we need a resolution."

This temporary restraining order is the latest chapter in the lawsuit Northville Township filed in November 2021 against Arbor Hills to stop noxious odors, prevent excess pollutants being discharged and to protect Johnson Creek, the only cold-water trout stream in the area.

A hearing will be scheduled by the court to address the motion.

Special delivery

New police program offers safe storage option for holiday packages

The Northville Township Police Department takes the protection of residents seriously, including reducing some of the risk of online shopping.

The department has introduced Operation Max's Vault, a temporary package storage solution which allows residents to ship online purchases under 50 pounds to the police department in care of Max's Vault, named for the department support dog. The parcels will be stored in a secured area, officials said, and the package owner must pick up the delivery within five days of arrival. "The goal of this program is to keep the Grinch out of the holiday season," said Police Chief Scott Hilden. "It will reduce the opportunity for porch pirates to steal packages after they are delivered to a dwelling and left unattended."

He expects Operation Max's Vault will tamp down the opportunity for theft.

In November and December 2022, 83 incidents of package thefts were reported to police in Oakland, Washtenaw and Western Wayne County.

> *It will reduce the opportunity for porch pirates to steal packages after they are delivered to a dwelling and left unattended.*

Additionally, a survey published by SafeWise and Vivint Smart Home in November 2022, reports three in four Americans have had a delivery stolen from their home. It estimates 260 million packages, valued at $19.5 billion, were stolen from porches in the United States in the year prior.

To ensure the package gets to the correct buyer, police have instituted a secure process to claim the package. The person whose name is on the delivery must provide government-issued identification that matches the name on the shipment. A spouse, friend or other family member cannot come in that person's place. In addition, the shopper must show an order confirmation or receipt, as well as sign a release form.

Because the police department is a 24-hour operation, residents may claim packages at any time of day.

Operation Max's Vault will continue until Jan. 1, 2024.

This service is free and is open to all Northville Township residents. Deliveries must weigh less than 50 pounds and cannot contain hazardous materials, flammable liquids, illegal contraband, live animals, weapons or ammunition.

To ship a package, use the following addressee format:

[Recipient Name]
c/o Max's Vault
41600 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168

Any unclaimed packages after Jan. 1, 2024, will be held at the police department for one week and attempts will be made to contact the owner. If the resident doesn't respond, the packages will be returned to the sender.

"This unique crime prevention program is an example of how the Northville Township Police Department continues to innovate in order to provide exceptional public service in a professional, creative, responsible manner," Hilden said.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 2, 2023
Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden.

Roll Call
Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe, Tina Talley, William Wadsworth, Virginia Williams
Absent / Excused: Eva Webb
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Robert McCraight, Mayor
Stacy Paige, Treasurer
Administrative Staff in Attendance:
Sean Mullins, Clerk's Office Staff; Jerry Frayer, DDA Director; Steven Dudek, Director of Technology Services

1. **Agenda**
   - A. Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to accept the agenda **Motion Carried Unanimously**
2. **Minutes**
   - A. **Res. # 23- 258** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley** for Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on Monday, September 25, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
   - B. **Res. # 23-259** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley** for Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting - Study Session held on Monday, September 25, 2023, at 6:15 p.m. to discuss the City of Romulus Retiree Healthcare. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
3. **Petitioner** - None
4. **Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
   - A. Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to Accept the Chairperson's Report **Motion Carried Unanimously**
5. **Mayor's Report – Robert A. McCraight, Mayor** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
   - A. **Res. # 23-260** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe** to concur with the Administration and authorize the Mayor or Human Resources Director to enter into a contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield, beginning January 1, 2024, to provide a group Medicare Advantage Plan to replace the current supplemental plan for all eligible City and Court retirees. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
   - B. **Res. #23- 261** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to concur with the Administration and consent to piggyback on the MiDeal Contract #MA190000001154 for the purchase of ten (10) Portable Prep Radios from Motorola Solutions at a cost of $56,071.30. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
   - C. **Res. # 23-262** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to concur with the Administration and consent to piggyback on the Dell Midwestern Higher Education Compact Contract #MHEC-04152022 for the upgrade of the license for the Dell Power Protect Data Manager software for additional backup capacity at a total cost of $13,985.60. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
6. **Clerk's Report – Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk**
7. **Treasurer's Report – Stacy Paige, Treasurer** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
8. **Public Comment**
   A resident inquired about property taxes.
9. **Unfinished Business**
10. **New Business** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
11. **Communication** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
12. **Adjournment**
    Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan, certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on October 2, 2023.

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

RM0766 - 110923 2.5 x 8.119

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 25, 2023
Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden

Roll Call
Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Celeste Roscoe, Tina Talley, William Wadsworth, Virginia Williams Absent / Excused: Eva Webb
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Administrative Staff in Attendance:
D'Sjonaun Hockenhull, Deputy Clerk; Julie Wojtylko, Chief of Staff; Steve Hitchcock, City Attorney Roberty Scappaticci, DPW Director; Jeff Kemp, Building Director; Jennifer Maddison, Technology Services; Maria Lambert, Resident Services Director/C.D.B.G. Coordinator

1. **Agenda**
   - A. Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to approve the Agenda. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
2. **Minutes**
   - A. **Res # 23-248** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley t**o approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - B. **Res. #23-249** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting - Study Session held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 6:45 p.m. to discuss the Quarterly Investment Report. **Motion Carried Unanimously**
3. **Petitioner** - None
4. **Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem**
   - A. Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to accept the Chairperson's Report. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**
5. **Mayor's Report - Robert A. McCraight, Mayor**
   - A. **Res. #23-250** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding between The Senior Alliance (T.S.A.), Area of Aging 1-C and the City of Romulus to provide free health care benefit counseling to older adults and individuals with disabilities. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - B. **Res. #23-251** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo,** to concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with the Romulus Athletic Club (Romulus Flyers) to allow the use of Elmer Johnson Park for the purpose of football practice, football games and end of season cleanup from October 3, 2023, through November 10, 2023. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - C. **Res. #23-252** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **William Wadsworth**, to concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into the grant agreement between the County of Wayne and the City of Romulus for improvements to the Jimmy Raspberry Park (36289 Cypress) with an allocation to the City of Romulus in the amount of $29,521.00 to be used to remove aged playground equipment and replace with new, safer equipment. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - D. **Res. #23-253** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe**, to concur with the administration and consent to piggyback on the N.C.P.A. Contract 01-50 for the purchase of the 23/24 licenses for Adobe Pro from Zones Inc. for a cost of $15,677.00. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - E. **Res. #23-254** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe**, to concur with the administration and consent to piggyback on the City of Livonia RFB-05092023- D.P.W and enter into the contract with Underground Infrastructure Services, Inc. for a Lead Service Line Investigation Program at a cost of $253,681.00 with a 10% ($25,368.10) contingency for any unfore seen restoration requirements. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
   - F. **Res. #23-255** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **William Wadsworth** to concur with the administration and consent to piggyback on the MiDeal Contract #07B7700179 for the purchase of one (1) 2023 Ford Bronco Sport in the amount of $32,805.00 with Feldman Automotive Group to replace the most worn-out vehicle currently being used by the Building Department. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
6. **Clerk's Report - Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk**
   - A. **Res. #23-256** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **William Wadsworth** to approve the Amended Resolution Authorizing a Proposed Ballot Language Amending Chapter 6, Section 6.4 of the Romulus City Charter. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
7. **Treasurer's Report - Stacy Paige, Treasurer**
8. **Public Comment**
   A resident addressed the city council about the unpaid taxes of a local business.
   A resident inquired about the city's position on cannabis establishments.
9. **Unfinished Business** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
10. **New Business**
11. **Warrant**
    - A. **Res. #23-257** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to approve Warrant #23-18 for checks presented in the amount of $1,545,672.06. **Motion Carried Unanimously**.
12. **Communication** - *See Clerk's Office for complete copy of Minutes*
13. **Adjournment**
    Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on September 25, 2023.

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

RM0765 - 110923 2.5 x 10.898

Inkster - Wayne

State forgives Inkster School District debt

Inkster property owners received an early holiday gift last week when state legislators agreed to forgive $12.12 million in school district tax debt.

The Michigan State Senate approved House Bill 4292, budget supplemental legislation that included the $12.12 million the former Inkster School District debt. As a result of the state action, Inkster residents are currently paying 13 mills, plus interest, on the dissolved district remaining school debt, which was not slated to be paid off until the year 2032. By eliminating the remaining debt, all Inkster residents will see a significant property tax reduction. By forgiveness of the district debt, Inkster residents will be paying between zero mills and 8 mills (at most) of debt, depending on which of four neighboring school districts their children actually attend.

> *My constituents in Inkster need this relief. They deserve this relief.*

"Ten years since the state dissolved their district, Inkster residents-and my constituents-are still paying exorbitant taxes on the remaining debt for a school district that their kids cannot attend," said Sen. Dayna Polehanki. "My constituents in Inkster need this relief. They deserve this relief. I have been fighting for years to give it to them, and today, I am proud to help deliver it."

The bill approved last week provides legacy debt relief for Inkster and several other school districts that have been subject to financial emergency management, consolidation, or dissolution. The City of Inkster school district was dissolved by the State of Michigan in 2013 for financial reasons under Gov. Rick Snyder.

Hairy experience

As they have for several years, members of the City of Wayne Police Department will participate in Movember this year. Each of the participating officers will grow a beard or a mustache as part of a fundraising effort for the Movember Foundation, an organization which funds awareness of cancer research, suicide prevention and mental health. "As police officers, we can sometimes forget to make sure that our own health is a priority. The Movember campaign helps remind us that just like we have a duty to protect the community, we also have a duty to protect our own health. We owe it to our friends and family to make our own health a priority," a department organizer said. The officers are accepting donations to their cause all month as they continue to grow their facial hair to publicize the importance of the Movember Foundation. To donate, access https://movember.com/t/wayne-pd?mc=1 and click the Donate Now button.

Nov. 15 is deadline for Veteran's Holiday Meals applications

Area veterans and their families have only until Nov. 15 to register for the 10th Annual Holiday Meals for Wayne-Westland Veterans.

Westland Mayor Michael Londeau, Wayne Mayor John Rhaesa and Wayne Ford Civic League President Vic Barra have organized the event again this year which is open to veterans, surviving spouses, and families of active duty service members.

Registration is available online at: https://www.cityofwestland.com/.../Holiday-Meals-for... or contact Londeau's office, (734) 467-3200 or email: mayor@cityofwestland.com. Registration is also available at Rhaesa's office, (734) 722-2000 or email: JRhaesa@cityofwayne.com. Registration forms are also available at the Westland City Hall greeter station.Applications must be submitted no later than noon Wednesday, Nov. 15 to receive a complete holiday meal, "compliments of a grateful community," officials said.

Veterans and/or their families can pick up the free meals from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18 at Wayne Ford Civic League 1645 N. Wayne Road in Westland. Pre-registration for the meals is required.

For more information, call (734) 728-5010.

Special limited hours - Call for an appointment

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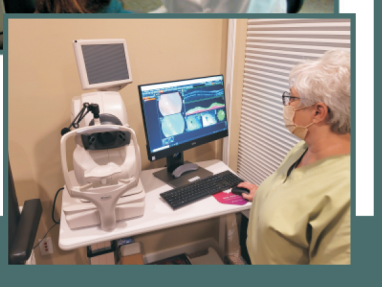

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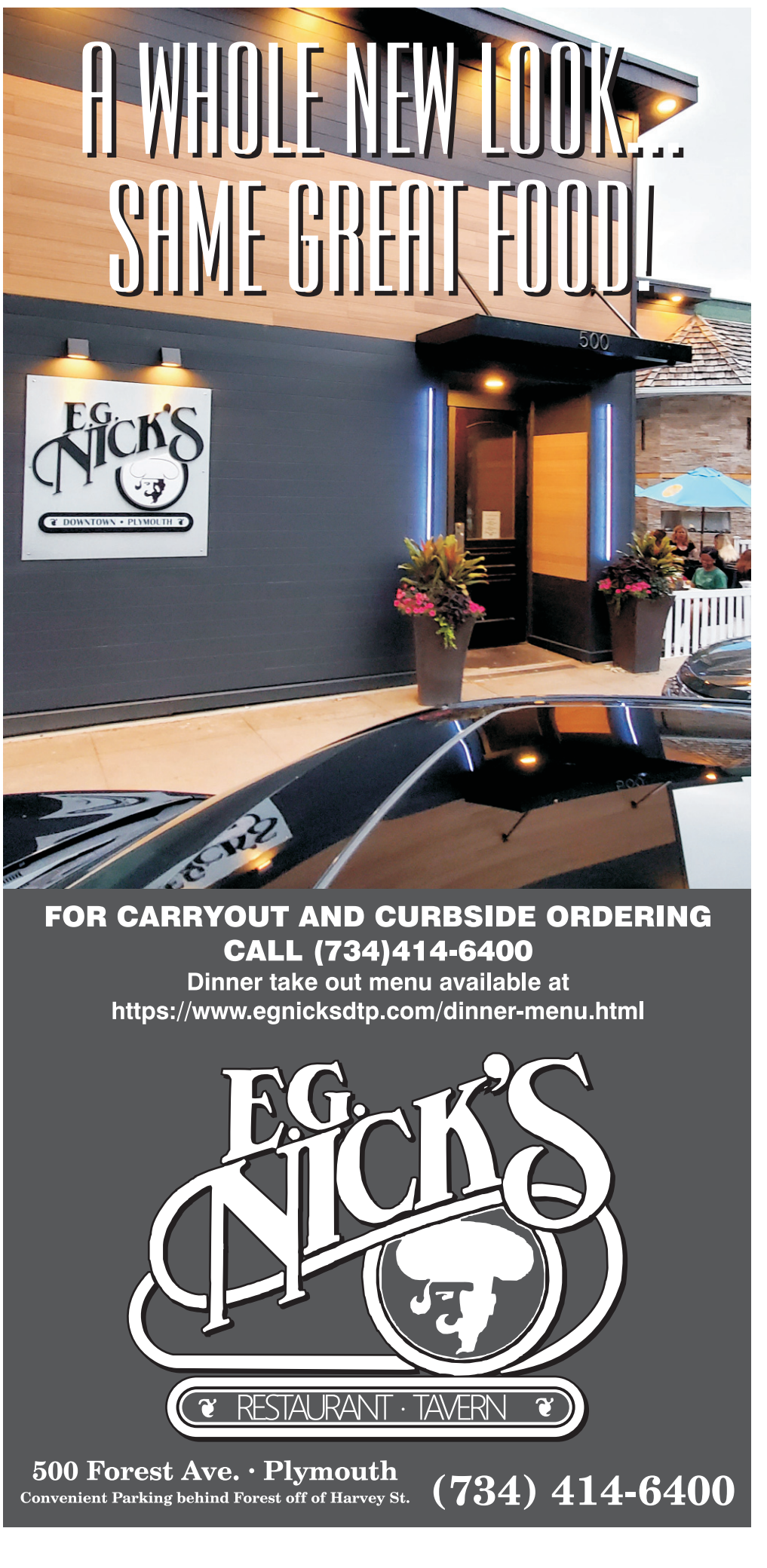

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